



Atty. Dkt. No. 030307-0217

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Lars BLANK, *et al.*  
Title: METHOD OF IMPROVING BIOMASS  
YIELD OF LACTIC ACID BACTERIAL  
CULTURES  
Appl. No.: 10/623,578  
Filing Date: 7/22/2003  
Examiner: Leon B. LANKFORD, JR.  
Art Unit: 1651

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated October 6, 2005, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Applicants have enclosed with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this document.

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